

Comparison of Process Changes Resulting from Leasing Reform Policy

Leasing Stages	Current Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Policy	Proposed Leasing Reform Policy	Recommended in the Utah 77 Field Review Report
1) General Land Use Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In its Resource Management Plans (RMP), the BLM identifies areas as closed to leasing, open to leasing, and open to leasing with major/moderate environmental protection measures. 	No Change	NA
2) Refined Planning for Potential New Leasing and Development Areas	Not Addressed	<p>Master Leasing and Development Planning (MLDP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An MLDP is a stepped down leasing analysis of mostly unleased and undeveloped areas that have been proposed for oil and gas leasing and that have the potential for substantial oil and gas development. Field offices will analyze in greater detail the impacts of leasing and development in the proposed area. Field offices will ensure greater public involvement. Field offices will identify key issues such as protection of air quality, watersheds, wilderness, wildlife, and nearby land uses. Field offices will identify appropriate leasing and development mitigation measures to protect the environment. 	Yes
3) Competitive Oil and Gas Sale Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal and external requests for leasing are submitted to the BLM State offices and then to the Field Offices for review. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Change 	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field offices conduct a quick internal data and plan review to confirm whether leasing the proposed parcel of land for oil and gas development would be in conformance with the land use plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field offices will use Interdisciplinary Teams to carefully conduct a comprehensive review of proposed parcels. In most cases, Field offices will conduct an on-the-ground reconnaissance of parcels. Field office will identify interested groups and individuals seek their involvement. Field offices will prepare an environmental review document to evaluate existing, revised, and/or new stipulations. The public will be invited to review and comment on the draft document. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field offices identify major/moderate environmental protection measures for the lease parcel based on the land use plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The BLM will use the environmental and public review to address important resource values (such as air quality, watersheds, wilderness, wildlife, and nearby land uses) and to identify appropriate mitigation measures for protection of the environment. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State offices offer parcels for lease quarterly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Change 	